

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 30, 2014 SPECIAL GENERAL PLAN
PLANNING AND ZONING MEETING



Planning and Zoning Board

Minutes

Held at the City of Mesa Red Mountain Ranch Library Branch
in the Roadrunner Room

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Randy Carter, Chair
Beth Coons, Vice-Chair
Michael Clement
Vince DiBella
Suzanne Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brad Arnett
Lisa Hudson

STAFF PRESENT:

Tom Ellsworth
Rebecca Gorton
Julia Kerran
Margaret Robertson

OTHERS PRESENT:

Craig Henry
Ryan Winkle
David Dahlberg
Clara Jo Ziervogel
Richard Dyer
Frank McRue
Bob McNichols
Ed Fuss
Kathleen Rahn
Cindy Ornstein

Chair Carter declared a quorum present and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. before adjournment at 6:44 p.m.

MESA 2040 GENERAL PLAN:

Senior Planner, Tom Ellsworth, gave a presentation on the Mesa 2040 General Plan. Boardmember Suzanne Johnson verified that a redline copy of the proposed General Plan would be available online. Chair Randy Carter verified that wording concerns would be addressed on the redline copy. Boardmember Beth Coons inquired as to the number of people who have made an impact on the proposed General Plan. Ms. Johnson stated that she was impressed with the number of stakeholders and the in depth involvement required to make a General Plan Update work.

Chair Carter asked if the proposed General Plan was turned down by the Mesa Voters, would the process begin again and how does the State deal with failed General Plan Updates. Mr. Ellsworth stated that we would not begin at the beginning, however, Staff would investigate which areas of the Mesa 2040 General Plan was not supported by Voters. Assistant City

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Attorney, Margaret Robertson, stated that the State of Arizona allowed an extension from 2012 to 2014, for all municipalities, to complete their General Plan Updates. Boardmember Michael Clement asked what the financial impact would be if the proposed General Plan did not pass, would there be a loss of revenue. Margaret Robertson stated that the City of Mesa would be burdened with the cost of a special election.

Craig Henry, of 1603 North Sinova, is the Chairman of the Mesa Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Henry submitted a letter from the Mesa Chamber of Commerce regarding Chapters 5, 7 and 12 of the proposed General Plan Update. Mr. Henry stated that the Chamber wanted to ensure that adequate measures are taken in the new General Plan that will protect, maintain and grow a strong business community. He stated that the area of purple around Falcon Field, on the proposed General Plan Map, does not address the noise contour of the activity at the airport. He pointed out that there is no housing or mass transit in or around either airport, in Mesa, that can accommodate the workforce making \$12.00/hour. Boardmember Coons replied that the Planning and Zoning Board supports the Chamber's comments.

Ryan Winkle, of 911 West Jacinto, stated he was attending as a representative of Retail-Arts-Innovation-Livability (RAIL) and as a resident of Mesa. Mr. Winkle stated that he was pleasantly surprised to see that the Mesa 2040 General Plan Update incorporated complete streets, walkability and Light Rail connections as integral components of Mesa's future vision. He stated that the RAIL organization appreciated the City of Mesa including a strong art community element in the Character Area of Downtown.

Clara Jo Ziervogel, of 715 North Balboa Circle, stated that the Nextdoor website has become a media for big brother to interfere with neighborhoods. Ms. Ziervogel asked how the City of Mesa was educating their neighborhoods on the General Plan. Ms. Ziervogel stated that Bezar Homes was the developer of her neighborhood and they built the subdivision without cohesiveness. She stated that her neighbors are destroying the neighborhood. Boardmember Coons stated that she believed that most of the neighborhoods in the City of Mesa knew about the General Plan. Boardmember Johnson stated that there are inserts each month, regarding the General Plan, included with the City of Mesa Water Bill. Chair Carter stated that the City Councilmembers should be inclined to go to each of their districts and explain the Mesa 2040 General Plan. Chair Carter stated that most people are relying on the Planning and Zoning Board.

Chair Randy Carter stated that the Mesa 2040 General Plan was well done and that he agreed with what the Chamber of Commerce was thinking.

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Note: Audio recordings of the Planning & Zoning Board Meetings are available in the Planning Division Office for review. They are also "live broadcasted" through the City of Mesa's website

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at www.mesaaz.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

John Wesley, Secretary
Planning Director

Minutes written by Julia Kerran, Planning Assistant

JK:

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